

BAXTER HEALTH CORPORATION OF PUERTO RICO  
AIBONITO, PUERTO RICO

**Baxter Health Corp., of Aibonito, Puerto Rico** manufactures medical devices used to administer fluids, drugs, blood, and irrigating solutions. Its Pollution Prevention Program has led to significant reductions in hazardous and nonhazardous waste, and air toxic emissions over the past 10 years. Baxter Aibonito participates in EPA's Design for the Environment program by using environmentally-benign solvents in metal cleaning, and Baxter is working to expand its DfE work into safer laundry detergents and other areas. Baxter Aibonito participates in the Puerto Rico Conservation Trust and other local environmental and educational activities. In 1996, the facility received the Flor de Margarita Award from the Puerto Rico Solid Waste Authority for its work in reducing and recycling non-hazardous solid waste. Baxter Aibonito was certified to ISO 14001 in 2000.

**AT A GLANCE**

Industry Sector:	SIC 3841
Business:	Manufactures medical devices
Facility Employees:	more than 1,000
Accomplishments:	Reduced hazardous waste Reduced emissions of air toxics
2003 Commitments:	Reduce water use Reduce emissions of VOCs Reduce energy use Increase use of recycled materials
Address:	Road 721, Km 0.3 Calle Mercedita Serralles Aibonito, PR 00705

## ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

### *Past Accomplishments*

Baxter Aibonito has demonstrated its commitment to environmental performance in the areas of reduced hazardous waste and reduced emissions of air toxics. Since 1997, the facility has:

- **Reduced hazardous waste** generation by 3.2% per production hour through recycling solvent, training employees, and carefully tracking hazardous material use in each production area.
- **Reduced emissions of air toxics** by 55% through eliminating an ethylene oxide sterilization process and through employee training, process automation, and improved materials management.

### *Future Commitments*

Baxter Aibonito has also committed to continued environmental improvement. By 2003, the facility will:

- **Reduce water use** by 20% through installing a new de-ionization system, reprogramming laundry washing machines, consolidating boiler room waters and wet kit discharges for re-use, installing a water saver evaporation system, and reducing the frequency of gown washing.
- **Reduce emissions of VOCs** by 98% through substituting cleaning products.
- **Reduce energy use** by 3.5% through installing a utilities control system to identify energy losses in systems and reducing or eliminating those losses; through installing light sensors in offices; through replacing obsolete equipment with more energy efficient equipment, and through continuing an aggressive employee education campaign.
- **Increase use of recycled materials** 15-fold by implementing a PVC reuse project.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Baxter Aibonito's Community Outreach Program is centered around the facility's annual Environmental Fair. Local schools exhibit environmental projects and speakers discuss topics of local interest such as water conservation, reforestation, energy saving, and pollution prevention. Baxter participates in a community group, Rescate Ambiental Aibonito, and forms part of the Municipal Committee for Emergency Response, through which the facility provides support during emergencies, including natural disasters such as hurricanes. Baxter's environmental policy is posted in the facility lobby and the facility environmental manager responds to all citizen inquiries.